

REMARKS

In this amendment, Applicants have presented a new independent Claim 19. Support for this claim is found in the specification and claims as filed, in particular including Claims 1, 2, 3 and 5. Following this amendment, Claims 1-19 are pending; claims 13-18 are withdrawn pursuant to the restriction requirement issued June 14, 2006, and the election made herein.

Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to one of the following inventions:

- I. Claims 1-12, drawn to a glass composition, classified in class 501, subclass 67;
- II. Claims 13-18, drawn to an optically stepped index fiber, classified in class 428, subclass 428.

Applicants, hereby elect the claims of Group I, Claims 1-12; drawn to a glass composition.

Election of Species

The Examiner has further required, in the event of an election of Group I, an election of species among those of Claims 1 and 2 (Species A); Claims 3 and 4 (Species B); and Claims 5-12 (Species C). Applicants elect Species A, identified by Claims 1 and 2: a boron aluminosilicate glass in terms of wt % where Li_2O is 0-2, K_2O is >6.5-11, ZnO is 20-25, and La_2O_3 is 0-1.5. Claims corresponding to this species are Claims 1, 2 and 19. It should be noted that new Claim 19 is generic to all claims of Species A, B and C.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the pending claims are allowable. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 
David L. Suter, Reg. No. 30,692

HARNES, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

DLS/kq